

## Wu: China has no authority over Taiwan

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- Taiwan's economic and cultural representative office spokesman told a Washington audience Tuesday China has no right to claim authority over the island nation. In a keynote address to the Heritage Foundation, Jaushieh Joseph Wu accused the People's Republic of China of attempting to block every move Taiwan makes to participate in world organizations, including the United Nations. "Taiwan possesses all the criteria for a sovereign state: a permanent population, a defined territory, a government and a capacity to enter into relations with other states," Wu said. "As a result, Taiwan is clearly entitled, under the U.N. charter, to seek membership." Wu said China has "actively opposed and lobbied others against our inclusion in every multinational organization to which we have sought membership or tried to contribute our expertise." He also accused China of a "dramatic military buildup along the Taiwan Strait that threatens" Taiwan's "peace and security." Additionally, China recently registered an air route down the center of the strait. "I think we all need to stand up to China and tell China that is threatening the status quo across the Taiwan Strait," he said. Wu said Taiwan has no intention of declaring outright independence from China but demands the right to represent itself.

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